

HOW TO SOLIDIFY PAINT

Why Solidify Paint?

Solidifying paint allows for the proper and safe disposal of left-over household paint.

What kind of paint should be solidified?

Only latex paint. Oil-based paint should be disposed of by donating it so that it is used up.

Getting started

Read all directions first. Follow directions carefully to avoid injuries and/or harm to the environment. If you have a chronic respiratory problem, such as asthma, ask someone else to solidify the paint, as the fumes might trigger symptoms.

You will need nitrile gloves, an old bucket or sturdy cardboard box, a stick for stirring and absorbent materials, such as clay-based kitty litter. **Do not use** a paper based product for the absorbent, as spontaneous combustion may occur.

***Please note:** These tips are intended for household quantities of leftover paint. Companies must follow paint disposal rules for businesses.*

1. Select a location where there is plenty of fresh air and which is inaccessible to children and pets. Outside is the best choice. Make sure you are away from fire, pilot lights, flammable chemicals or other sources of sparks or flames.
2. Do not smoke, eat or drink (especially alcohol) while solidifying paint. Avoid inhaling fumes (if you can smell it, you are inhaling it) and wear nitrile gloves to avoid skin contact. Nitrile gloves are available in most hardware stores. If you wear contact lenses, remove them while solidifying paint.
3. For small quantities, such as one or two inches in the bottom of a can, simply remove the lid, add the absorbent, then stir until all liquid is absorbed or remove the lid until the paint has solidified. This may take several days or weeks, depending on the amount of paint in the can.
4. For larger quantities of paint, mix absorbent and paint in an old bucket sturdy cardboard box and stir. It will be easier to mix if you pour some absorbent in the bottom of the bucket or box, and then add a little bit of paint at a time.
5. When paint is solidified, place the absorbent and boxes inside a garage bag, seal tightly, and dispose of in the trash.

